

Washington, DC – President Obama tonight delivered his State of the Union address to a Joint Session of Congress. The following is a statement from Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore):

“Tonight President Obama gave a clear, forceful, and at times humorous defense of his vision for America. He was clear that he will fight for his priorities, and tonight was an example of how he will also explain them in ways people can better understand.

“He has said that he cares more about America's future than his reelection, something that Congress and Americans needed to hear.

“Tonight's speech was about getting back to the fundamentals: a strong economy, the creation of good jobs, a college education, and access to quality, affordable health care.

“It was especially important that he put the spotlight on the Senate, for them to act on the priority health reform and energy and climate legislation the House has already passed.

“I've never heard a President be as forceful with the Senate, or for that matter the Supreme Court. The Justices were sitting right in front of him when he decried their overturning 100 years of precedent, opening the flood gates to special interest political contributions, even from foreign corporations.

“This was the best State of the Union I've heard, and it came at an important time for his Administration and the country.”